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let's move ahead rapidly with the ship option

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PRIORITY
CE RUHCSGG #8896 2671310
P 2413107 SEP 75
FM CINCPACREP GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS

TO RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

INFO WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS //N00000//

SECSTATE FOR IATF FROM HERBERT
WHITE HOUSE FOR BARNES, NSC STAFF
REPATRIATES' PETITION

1. THE SHEPLEY/SAUVAGEOT TEAM DEPARTED SEPTEMBER 17 WITH TWO PETITIONS FROM THE REPATRIATES IN HAND. ONE WAS ADDRESSED TO MRS. TAFT. THE OTHER WAS ADDRESSED TO QUOTE THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE TWO CHAIRMEN OF THE US CONGRESS UNQUOTE. PETITIONS ARE SIMILAR. A TRANSLATION OF THE PETITION TO THE PRESIDENT FOLLOWS. REQUEST IATF CONGLIAISON PROVIDE COPIES TO SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AND PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE. AM AIRMAILING VIETNAMESE TEXT TO BARNES. PETITION WAS SIGNED BY 1,541 REPATRIATES.

2. TEXT FOLLOWS. DEAR YOUR EXCELLENCIES: WE ARE THE VIETNAMESE WHO WERE EVACUATED UNWILLINGLY. IN THE PAST FOUR MONTHS, WE LIVED IN SUFFERING AND DESPERATION BY MISSING OUR COUNTRY AND OUR FAMILIES. BECAUSE WE WERE FORCED TO LEAVE OUR COUNTRY WITHOUT OUR CONSENT, THEN WE DECIDED TO GO BACK TO OUR COUNTRY. OUR SINCEREST, ONLY AND ENCHANDING DESIRE IS GOING BACK TO OUR BELOVED COUNTRY TO CONTRIBUTE OUR PART IN THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPING THE COUNTRY WHICH WAS DAMAGED AFTER 20 YEARS OF A MOURNFUL WAR, ALSO WITH THE DESIRE TO BE UNITED WITH OUR FAMILIES, ENJOY THE PEACE, THE FREEDOM, THE INDEPENDENCE, AND THE REUNION OF THE COUNTRY. DURING THE PAST TIME, TO REACH THIS AIM, WE HAVE HAD DEMANDING BY THE DEMONSTRATIONS, BY THE HUNGER STRIKES, BY THE APPLICATIONS TO ASK THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO RESOLVE OUR REPATRIATION. HOWEVER, AFTER MORE THAN FOUR MONTHS OF [illegible], WE ARE STILL IN THIS AREA, LIVING INSIDE OF THE FOUR [illegible] FENCES, DAY BY DAY, MORE FRUSTRATED AND SADDENED THAN [illegible]. TODAY, ONE MORE TIME, WE 1,6[illegible] VIETNAMESE REPATRIATES CERTIFY: (1) IN THE "[illegible] LIFE" PLAN, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT EVACUATED OUT OF VIET[illegible] APPROXIMATELY 130,[illegible] VIETNAMESE, INCLUDING US, IN [illegible] DAYS OF THE MONTH OF APRIL 1975 WITH MANY AIRCRAFT [illegible]. [illegible] WE NEVER THOUGHT OF GOING OUT OF THE COUNTRY, WE

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[illegible], CLEARLAND, BARNES

RSN:[illegible] PAGE 01 TOR:267/15:187 DTG:2413107 SEP 75

*******U N C L A S S I F I E D*******S COPY

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DECIDE TO RETURN. OUR RETURN WAS APPROVED BY THE PRG OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM THROUGH THE OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM DATED 26 MAY 1975 SENT TO THE U.N. HIGHER COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES AND MANY TIMES, THROUGH BROADCASTING STATIONS, NEWS MEDIA RELATIONS, THE PRG OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM STATED THAT THEY ARE READY TO FORGIVE AND WELCOME US TO RETURN TO RECONSTRUCT OUR COUNTRY.

(3) TO HAVE TRANSPORTATION TO RETURN TO OUR COUNTRY, ONE MORE TIME, WE REQUEST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PROVIDE US THE SHIP NAMED "VIET NAM THUONG TIN". THIS SHIP IS THE NATIONAL PROPERTY OF VIET NAM, WHICH WAS BROUGHT HERE AMONG OTHER SHIPS BY THE VIETNAMESE EVACUEES.

(4) WE HAVE NO PROBLEMS TO OPERATE THE PROVIDED SHIP BECAUSE AMONG US, THERE ARE MANY OFFICERS AND SAILORS, WHO ARE CAPABLE TO LEAD THE SHIP SAFELY BACK TO VIET NAM FROM GUAM.

(5) WITH THE PROVIDED SHIP, TO GUARANTEE THE SAFETY DURING THE RETURNING TRIP TO VIET NAM FROM GUAM, WE REQUEST THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE TWO PRESIDENTS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS:

HAVE THE SHIP REPAIRED WHERE DAMAGED AND FULLY EQUIPPED FOR A LONG TRIP.

AFTER THE SHIP BEING REPAIRED, PLEASE LET OUR RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS AND SAILORS EXAMINE THE SHIP AND PRACTICE THE OPERATIONS IN A SHORT TIME BEFORE GIVING US THE SHIP. PROVIDE US ENOUGH FUEL, FOOD, AND NECESSARY MEDICINES FOR THE TRIP FROM GUAM TO VIET NAM. HAVE U.S. WARSHIPS ESCORT OUR SHIP DURING THE TRIP FROM GUAM TO VIETNAM TO AVOID THOSE INSECURITIES WHICH MIGHT BE HAPPENED, AND OF COURSE, THE PROTECTION OF THE U.S. WARSHIPS IS NO LONGER NEED WHEN OUR SHIP ARRIVE THE SEA-SHORELINE OF VIET NAM.

DEAR THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE TWO PRESIDENTS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS: FOR THE SAKE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND HUMANITY, ONE MORE TIME, WE SINCERELY REQUEST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT RESOLVE OUR REPATRIATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY PROVIDING US A SHIP AS DESCRIBED ABOVE SO WITH THAT MEAN, WE RETURN TO OUR COUNTRY AND SATISFY OUR DESIRE. THE REQUEST TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR PROVIDING US THE STATED ABOVE SHIP, WHICH WITH THIS MEAN, WE ARE ABLE TO RETURN TO OUR COUNTRY, IS THE DESIRE OF ALL OF OUR 1,500 VIETNAMESE REPATRIATES IN GUAM. WE ALL ARE HAVING THE SAME DESIRE AND DETERMINATION AND WANT TO CERTIFY OUR DEMANDING THROUGH THE SIGNED ATTACHED LISTS. RESPECTFULLY YOURS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE TWO PRESIDENTS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS.

BT

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TRANSCRIPTION FOLLOWS

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PRIORITY
[Illegible] RUHGSGG #8896 2671310
241310Z SEP 75
FM CINCPACREP GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS

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